



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Mayor of Hailsham Welcomes New Town Councillor**

25 January 2016

Gavin Blake-Coggins has been elected as councillor for the East Ward on Hailsham Town Council.

Liberal Democrat Mr Blake-Coggins was voted in during the by-election on Thursday [21 January] having received 147 votes.

The vacancy arose after the passing of Councillor Stella Henstock last October and his election now brings the Council's membership back to twenty four town councillors.

A retired medical professional and trainer, Mr Blake-Coggins has been a resident of Hailsham for 26 years and is married with two children and 4 grandchildren. He stated that among his reasons for putting his name forward to become a town councillor was to work on making Hailsham a better place to live, work and visit.

He said: "I'm delighted to have been elected on to the Town Council and will do my best to help the people of Hailsham sort out any problems and issues that they face locally."

The Mayor of Hailsham, Councillor Nigel Coltman, welcomed Mr Blake-Coggins on to the Town Council. He said: "I'm delighted Gavin has been elected to represent this ward. He was a good candidate and I'm confident that he will get involved in the local community and promote close links between the Council and the people it serves, and help improve the quality of life for residents."

"I look forward to working with Gavin in the future and wish him every success in his role as town councillor."

Mr Blake-Coggins will hold office until the normal election of all councillors in May 2019.

<Ends>

### **Notes to Editor:**

- The political make up of Hailsham Town Council since the by-election:
  - 14 Conservative councillors
  - 6 Liberal Democrat councillors
  - 3 Independent councillors
  - 1 Labour councillor
- Three other candidates stood for election:
  - Darren Booth (Hailsham East Resident): 75 votes
  - Virginia Browne (Green Party): 19 votes
  - Steve Cross (Labour Party): 95 votes

The number of ballot papers issued was 339 (17.63%)

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